

REMARKS

I. Claim Amendment

Applicants have amended claim 2 to correct a typographic error in the claim. Claim 2 was inadvertently written as depending from claim 12, when it should have correctly been written as depending from claim 1.

II. Drawings

As an initial matter, the Examiner states that the proposed drawing correction and/or proposed substitute sheets of drawings, filed on May 1, 2002, have been disapproved. In particular, the Examiner states that the proposed drawing corrections have been disapproved because they are not in the form of a pen-and-ink sketch showing changes in red ink or with the changes otherwise highlighted. In response, Applicant asserts that such drawings in the form of pen-and-ink sketch showing changes in red ink were submitted. In response hereof, Applicant herewith submits, attached as Exhibit A, photocopies of the drawings submitted. The handwritten and now highlighted portions of these photocopies were written in red ink on the originals submitted to the USPTO with the response of May 1, 2002. Thus, Applicants respectfully assert that drawing corrections were submitted in accordance with MPEP § 608.02(v). However, in order to move this application towards allowance, Applicants will resubmit the corrected drawings herewith.

III. Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 102:

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-11 of the present application under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,300,031, issued to Neer et al. Applicants respectfully disagree. Applicants have filed a Notice of Appeal, dated December 2, 2002, and an Appeal Brief, of even date of this Response, to address this issue.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that no fee is due. If, however, any additional fee or surcharges are deemed due, please charge same or credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 23-3000.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions or remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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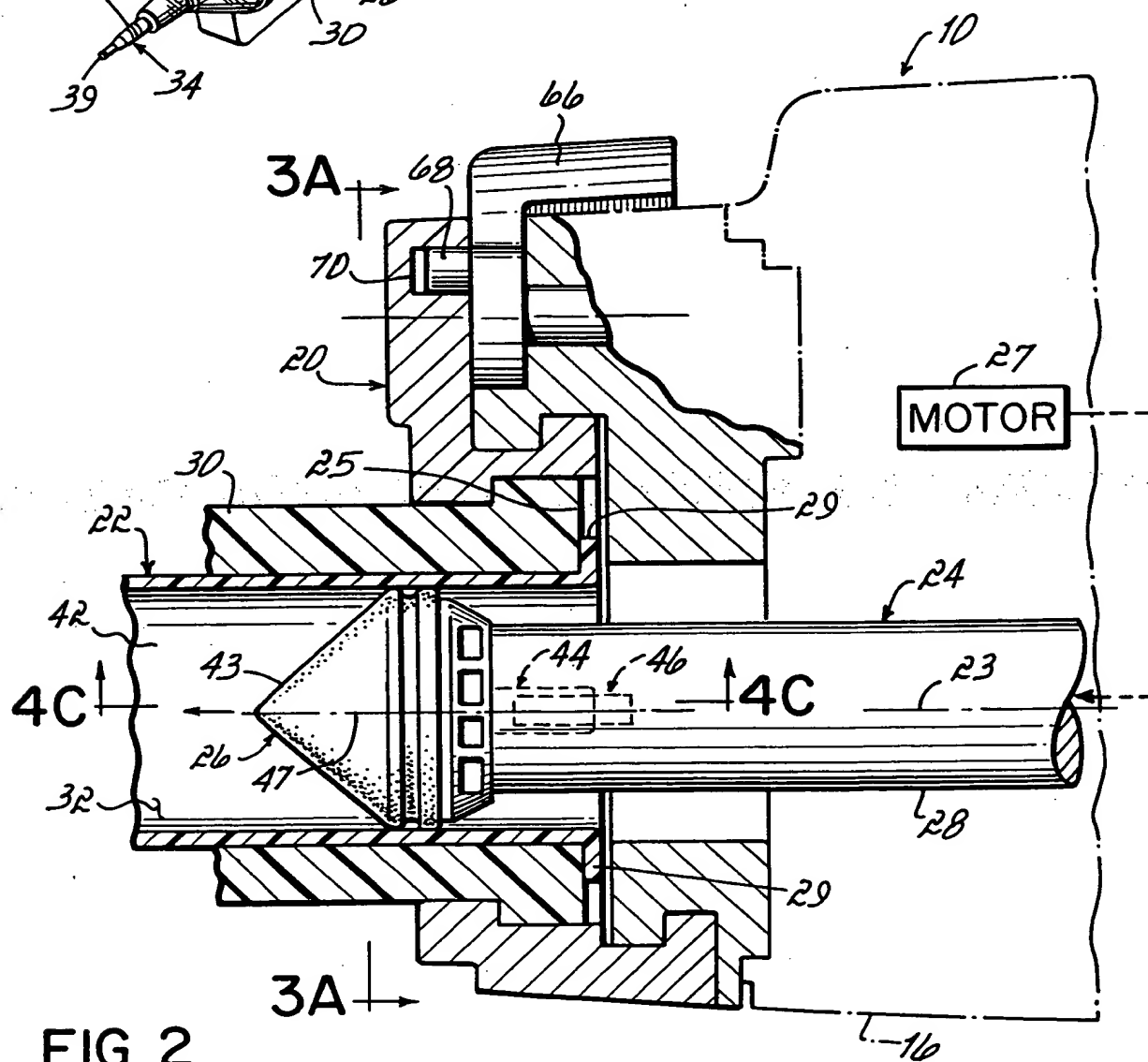
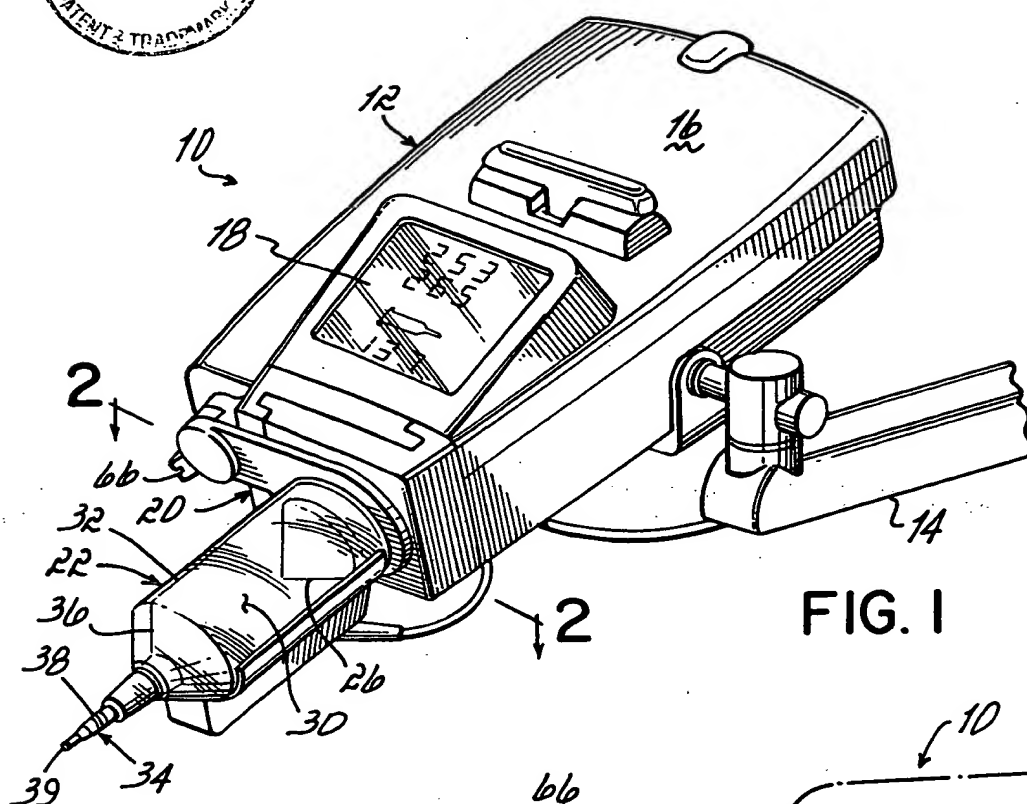
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

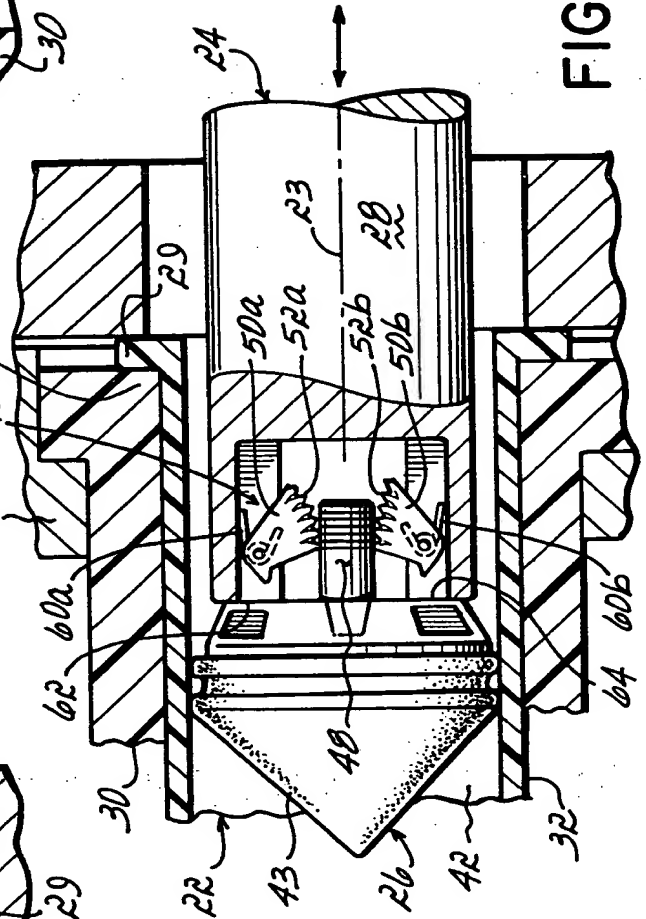
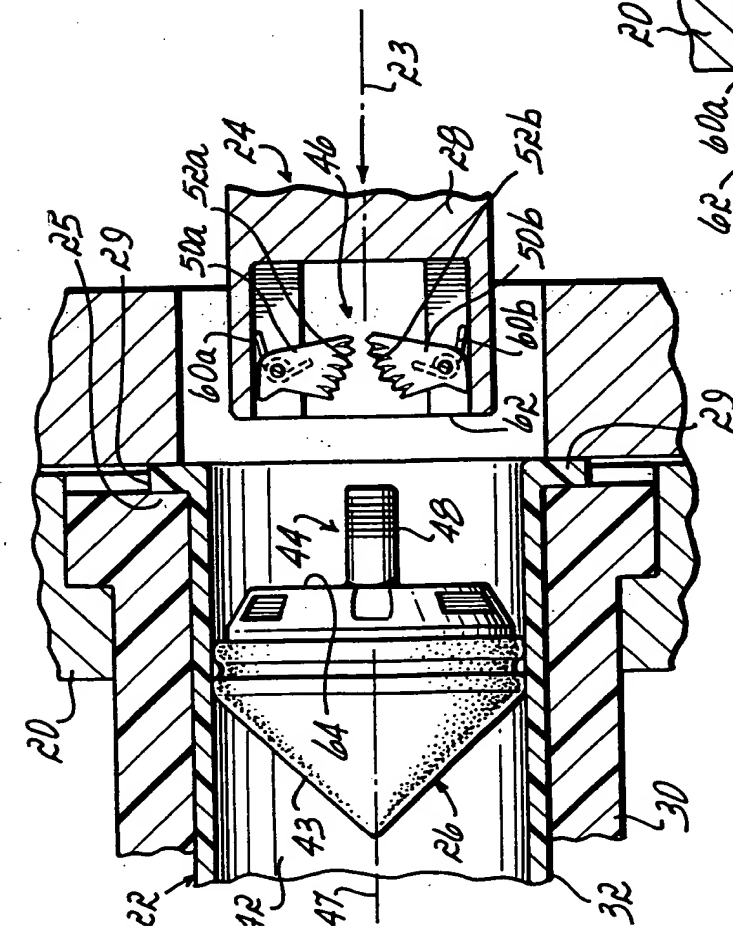
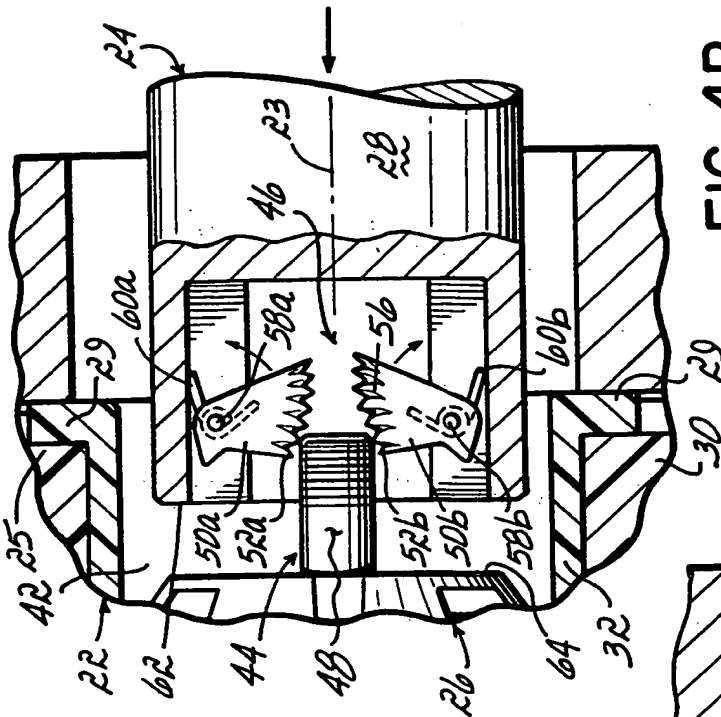
In the claims:

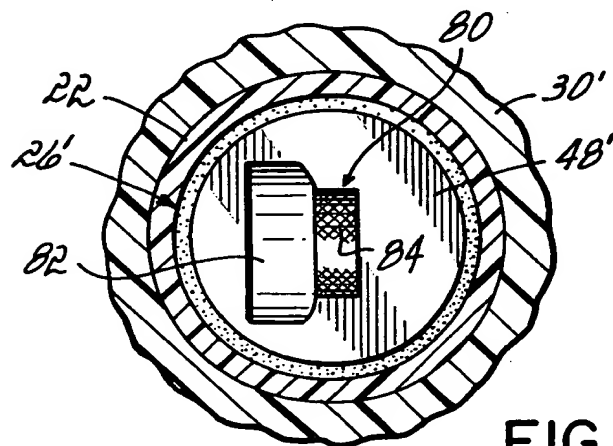
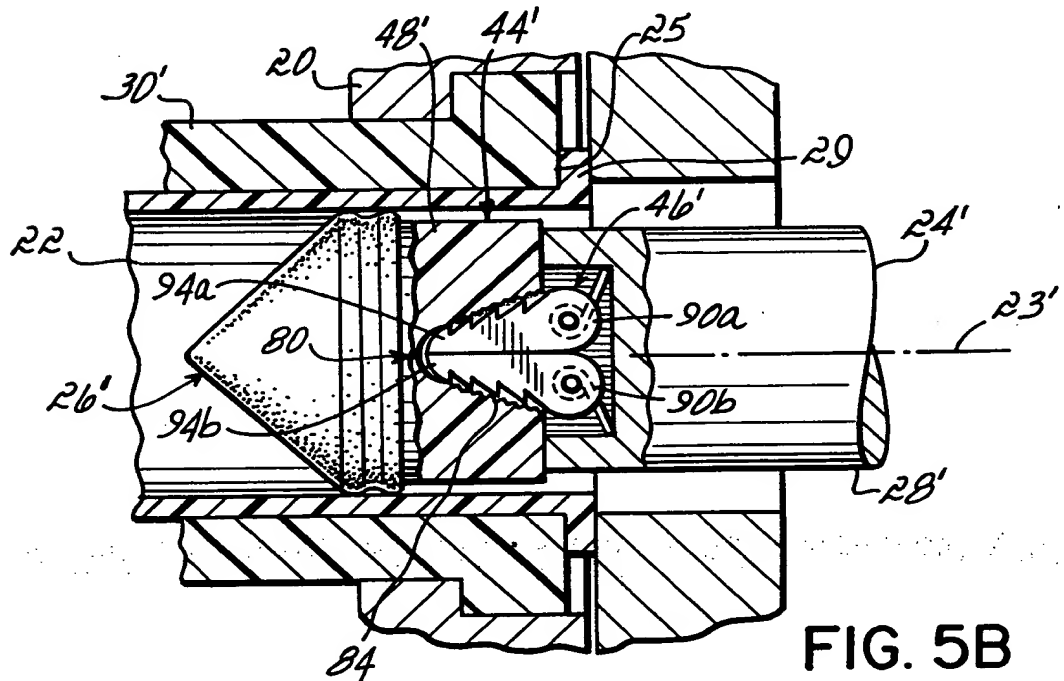
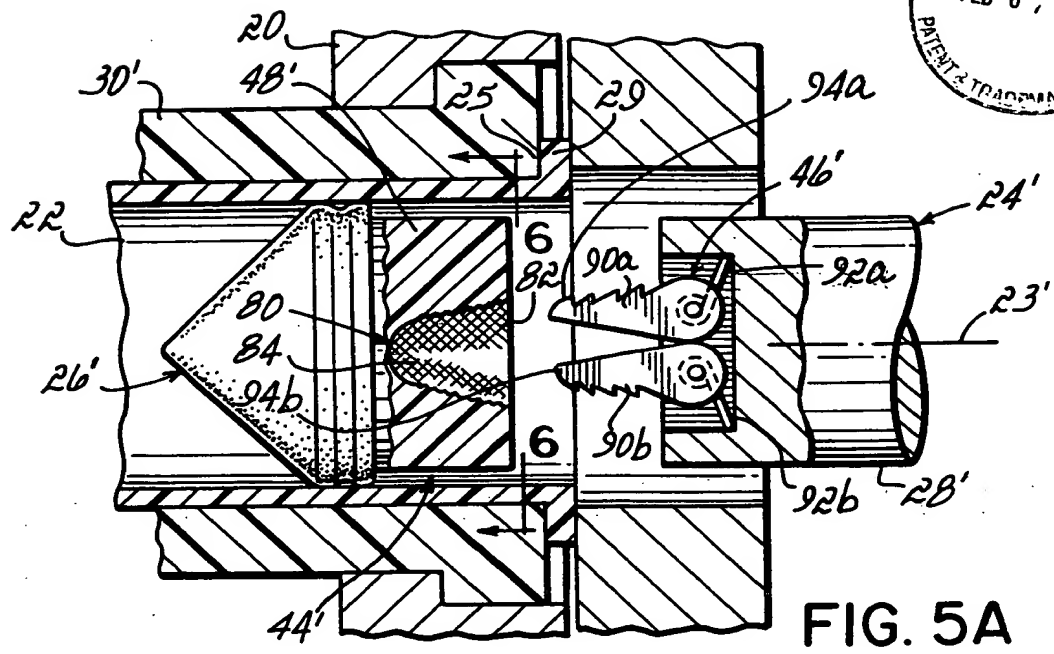
2.(AMENDED) The syringe of claim [12] 1 wherein said rearwardly facing coupling element is knurled.



**Copies of Drawings Submitted with Response to
Office Action dated May 1, 2002.**







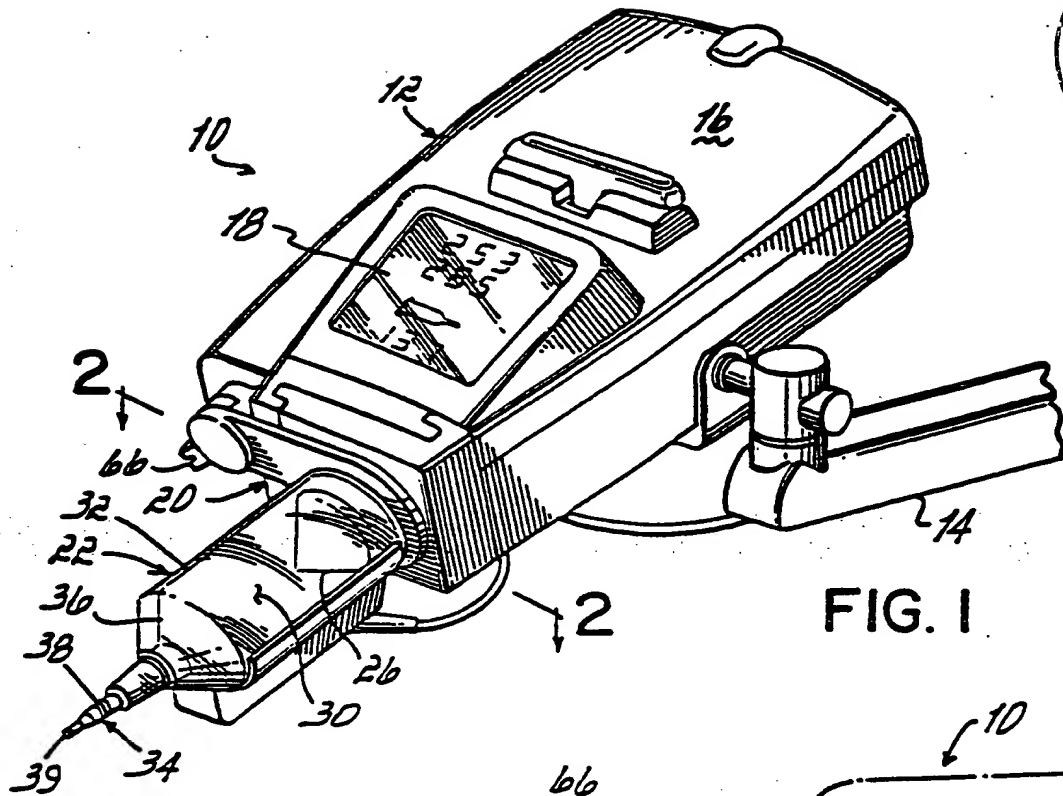


FIG. 1

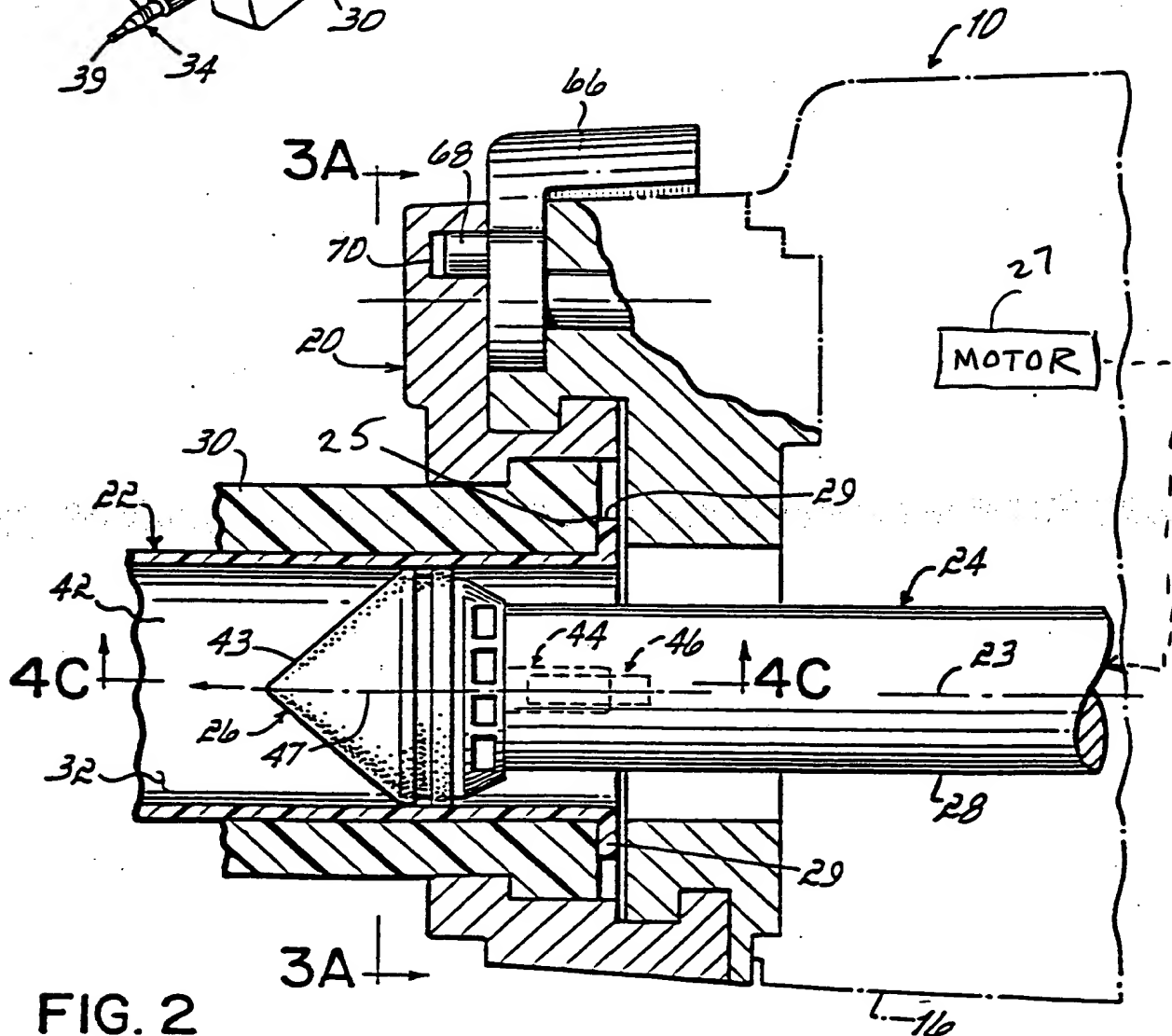


FIG. 2

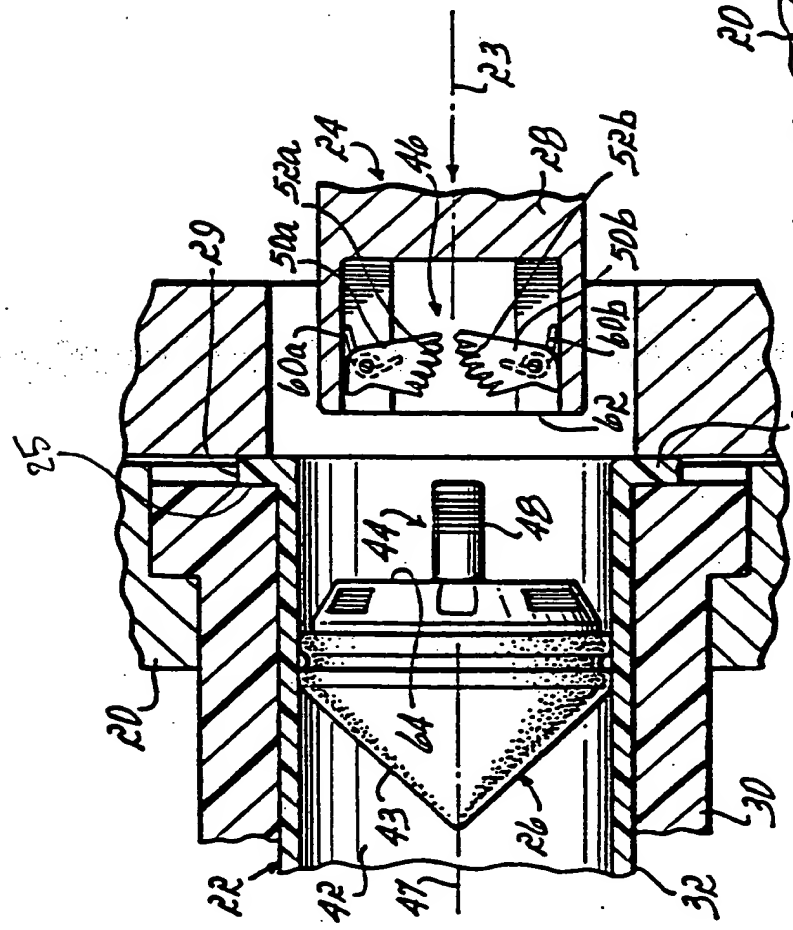
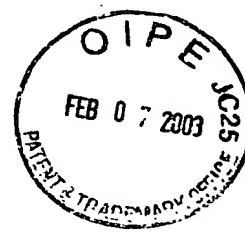


FIG. 4A

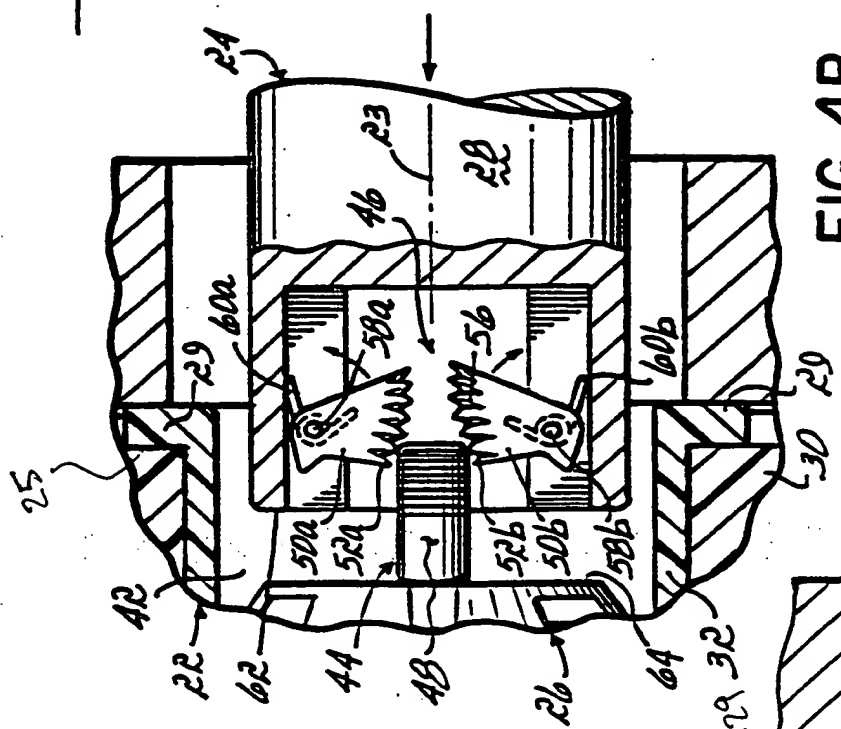


FIG. 4B

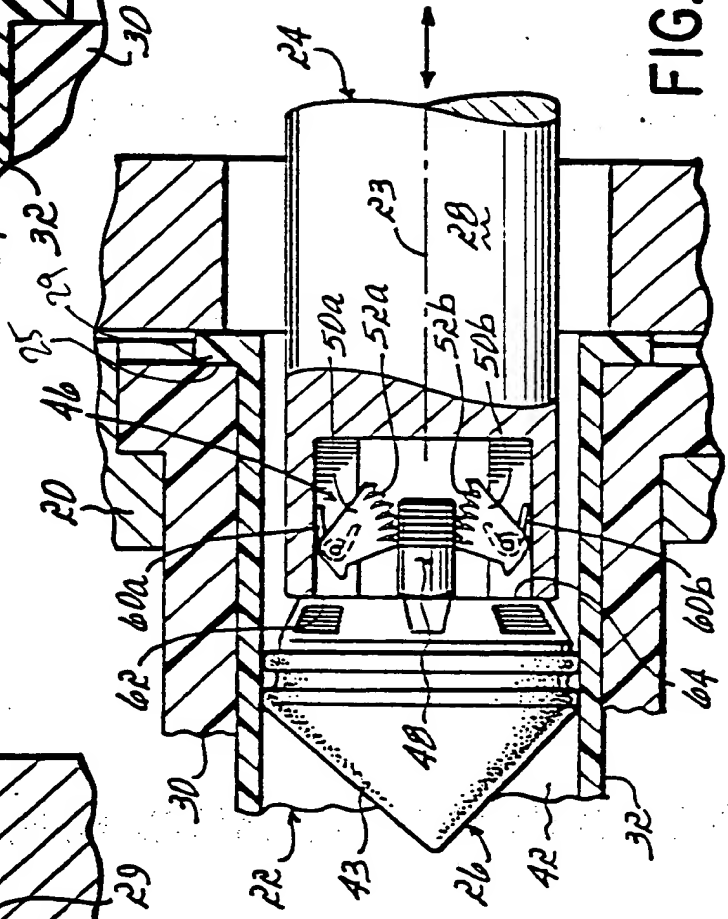


FIG. 4C

